AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) Belt (1) for use in a continuously variable transmission, comprising:

at least one set (7) of nested metal rings (2),

the set (7) interacting with transverse elements (3, 6) provided slidably along the set (7), and

the rings (2) of the set (7) being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings (2), wherein,

for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings (2) the nominal value of said play is zero, whereby said nominal value of zero is realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings (2), characterised in, that the nominal value of zero is realised by a tolerance of 0.00005 times the outer diameter of the inner ring (2) of a relevant pair of rings (2), plus or minus of said diameter.

16-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) Belt (1) for use in a continuously variable transmission, comprising:

at least one set (7) of nested metal rings (2),

the set (7) interacting with transverse elements (3, 6) provided slidably along the set (7), and

the rings (2) of the set (7) being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings (2), wherein,

for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings (2) the nominal value of said play is zero, whereby said nominal value of zero is realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings (2)

~~according to claim 17~~, characterised in,

that said mutual play between the innermost pair of adjacent rings (2) is of negative value, and

that the outer diameter of the innermost ring (2) is of a value (1-Z) times the inner diameter of the adjacent ring, Z being of a value smaller than 0.0008.

19. (previously presented) Belt (1) according to claim 18, characterised in, that Z is of a value greater than 0.0001.

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) Belt (1) for use in a continuously variable transmission, comprising:

at least one set (7) of nested metal rings (2),

the set (7) interacting with transverse elements (3, 6) provided slidably along the set (7), and

the rings (2) of the set (7) being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings (2), wherein,

for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings (2) the nominal value of said play is zero, whereby said nominal value of zero is realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings (2)

~~according to claim 20~~, characterised in,

that the mutual play between of the outermost pair of adjacent rings (2) is of positive value, and

that the inner diameter of the outermost ring (2) is of a value (1+Y) times the outer diameter of the adjacent ring, Y being of a value smaller than 0.0004.

22. (previously presented) Belt (1) according to claim 21, characterised in, that Y is of a value greater than 0.00005.

23-28. (canceled)

29. (previously presented) Continuously variable transmission belt, comprising:

a set of nested metal rings; and

transverse elements provided slidably along the set of nested metal rings,

the set of nested metal rings interacting with the transverse elements,

small mutual play provided between each pair of adjacent

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rings,

for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings the nominal value of said play is zero,

said nominal value of zero being realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings by a tolerance of 0.00005 times the outer diameter of an inner ring of a relevant pair of rings, plus or minus of said diameter.

30. (previously presented) Belt according to claim 29, wherein, said mutual play between the innermost pair of adjacent rings is of a negative value.

31. (previously presented) Continuously variable transmission belt, comprising:

a set of nested metal rings; and

transverse elements provided slidably along the set of nested metal rings,

the set of nested metal rings interacting with the transverse elements,

small mutual play provided between each pair of adjacent rings,

for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings the nominal value of said play is zero,

said nominal value of zero being realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings,

said mutual play between an innermost pair of adjacent

rings is of a negative value, and

the outer diameter of an innermost ring is of a value (1-Z) times an inner diameter of the adjacent ring, Z being of a value smaller than 0.0008.

32. (previously presented) Belt according to claim 31, wherein, Z is of a value greater than 0.0001.

33. (currently amended) Belt (1) <u>for use in a continuously variable transmission, comprising:</u>

<u>at least one set (7) of nested metal rings (2),</u>

<u>the set (7) interacting with transverse elements (3, 6) provided slidably along the set (7), and</u>

<u>the rings (2) of the set (7) being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings (2), wherein,</u>

<u>for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings (2) the nominal value of said play is zero, whereby said nominal value of zero is realised by positive and negative amounts of play between said pairs of adjacent rings (2)</u>

~~according to claim 15~~, wherein the inner diameter of the outermost ring (2) is of a value (1+Y) times the outer diameter of the adjacent ring, Y being of a value smaller than 0.0004.

34. (previously presented) Belt (1) according to claim 33, characterised in, that Y is of a value greater than 0.00005.

35. (currently amended)   Belt  (1)  <u>for  use  in  a</u>

<u>continuously variable transmission, comprising:</u>

<u>at least one set (7) of nested metal rings (2),</u>

<u>the set (7) interacting with transverse elements (3, 6)</u>

<u>provided slidably along the set (7), and</u>

<u>the rings (2) of the set (7) being accommodated with</u>

<u>small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings (2),</u>

<u>wherein,</u>

<u>for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent</u>

<u>rings (2) the nominal value of said play is zero, whereby said</u>

<u>nominal value of zero is realised by positive and negative amounts</u>

<u>of play between said pairs of adjacent rings (2)</u>

~~according to claim 15~~, wherein the amount of said mutual

play between each pair of adjacent rings is equal to the diameter

of  the  radially  inwardly  oriented  surface  of  the  radially

outermost ring of the two adjacent nested rings, when in a

circular configuration, minus the diameter of the radially

outwardly oriented surface of the radially innermost ring of two

adjacent nested rings, when in the circular configuration.

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